

UN EBOLA RESPONSE MPTF FINAL PROGRAMME¹ NARRATIVE REPORT - VERSION 1 DATE: 18/12/2017

Project	Num	ber(s)) and	Title(\mathbf{S}	۱
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#29- Support to the Confidence Building Units (CBU) from Mano River Union in national response against Ebola. **00094442** (Gateway ID)

Strategic Objective & Mission Critical Action(s)

SO (STEPP) No 4. MCA 11 Social mobilization and community engagement.

Location: Guinea

Country

Programme/Project Cost (US\$)

Total approved budget as per project proposal document: 2,836,072 \$ MPTF²:

1,308,752 \$ (UNDP)

Government Contribution *0 USD*

Other Contributions (donors) *0 USD*

TOTAL: 1,308,752\$

Recipient Organization(s)

RUNO(s): UNDP Project Focal Point: Name: Marc Wajnsztok

E-mail: marc.wajnsztok@undp.org

Implementing Partner(s)

• National counterparts (Government, private, NGOs & others) and/or other International Organizations:

Mano River Union (MRU)

• Other UN agencies:

UNDP-UNFPA-UNICEF

Sub-National Coverage Area:

- Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah
- Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara

Programme Duration

Overall Duration (7 months) Project Start Date³ (13 Mar 2015)

Originally Projected End Date⁴ (31 08 2015) Actual End date⁵ (29 Feb 2016)

Agency(ies) have operationally closed the programme in its(their) system \square Expected Financial Closure date⁶: 31/04/2017 6

¹ Refers to programmes, joint programmes and projects.

² The amount transferred to the Participating UN Organizations – see MPTF Office GATEWAY

³ The date of the first transfer of funds from the MPTF Office as Administrative Agent. The transfer date is available on the online MPTF Office GATEWAY.

⁴ As per approval of the original project document by the Advisory Committee.

⁵ If there has been an extension, then the revised, approved end date should be reflected here. If there has been no extension approved, then the current end date is the same as the originally projected end date. The end date is the same as the operational closure date, which is the date when all activities for which a Participating Organization is responsible under an approved project have been completed. As per the MOU, agencies are to notify the MPTF Office when a programme completes its operational activities. Please see MPTF Office Closure Guidelines.

⁶ Financial Closure requires the return of unspent funds and the submission of the <u>Certified Final Financial Statement and Report.</u>

Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.	Report Submitted By
Evaluation Completed	Name: Oscar LLorente Title: Technicies Servicies UNDP
□X Yes□ No Date:	 Title: Technician Specialist UNDP Date of Submission: 31/12/2017
Evaluation Report - Attached	 Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP
□X Yes□ No Date: 18 Mars 2016	o Email address: oscar.llorente@undp.org
	Signature:
	Report Cleared By
	o Name: Lionel Laurens
	o Date of Submission: 17/01/2018
	o Participating Organization (Lead): UNDP
	o <u>lionel.laurens@undp.org</u>
	Signature:

PROJECT/PROPOSALRESULT MATRIX7

Project Title: Support to the Confidence Building Units (CBU) from Mano River Union in national response against Ebola.						
Strategic Objective to which the project contributed	S.O.1: To improve community knowledge and support to community engagement activities.					
MCA [11] ⁸ Social mobilization and community engagement.						
Output Indicators	Geographical Area	Target ⁹	Budget (USD)	Final Achievements (see details in the narrative report)	Means of verification	Responsable Organization(s).
Outcome 1: Improved community knowledge and support to community engagement activities. # Improved Confidence Building Units are in place and functioning	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	30		17 CBU's installed and functioning during the Ebola outbreak. (UNDP) Note: UNICEF has reported 33 CBUs installed. Total number of CBUs functional raise to 50. Delivery Rate: 166,67 %	CBUs installation reports.	MRU/UNDP/UNIC EF
Outcome 2: Improved knowledge on Ebola prevention and transmission community levels. % of targeted reticence localities that accept Ebola prevention activities	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	75%		90% Delivery Rate: 120 %	Activities reports.	MRU/UNDP
% of targeted trained community leaders by trained MRU ToT (Trainer of trainers)	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	80%		98% Delivery Rate: 120 %	Activities reports.	MRU/UNDP
# of door-to-door sessions conducted by MRU/UNFPA/UNDP teams	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	19 800		9,500 (UNDP). Total cumulative result 19 730 Delivery Rate: 99,64 %	Activities reports Source of information: Generic final report (29 March 2016)	MRU/UNDP

⁷ **Sources of information:** Data reported are based on project information gathered within the generic final report, the consolidated report issued on 30 Septemberr2015 and the audit report submitted on 29 and 18 March 2016.

8 Project can choose to contribute to all MCA or only the one relevant to its purpose.

9 Assuming a ZERO Baseline

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Outcome 3: Improved social cohesion in EVD affected areas # of social activities (including sports, gatherings, village meetings) including EVED sensitization.	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	360	370 Delivery Rate: 102 %	Activities reports.	MRU/UNDP
# of radio debates held at rural and prefectural radios including EVD sensitization.	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	200	Delivery Rate: 121 % Note: To reach the assigned objectives MRU utilized traditional communicators and rural radios on EVD sensitization and awareness campaigns.	Activities reports.	MRU/UNDP
Strategic Objective to which the project contributed	S.O. 2: To mitigate the financial impact of EVD on vuln	erable groups.			
MCA [11] ¹⁰ Social mobilization and community engagement.					
Outcome 4: Financial impact on EVD mitigated on vulnerable groups % of families affected by EVD assisted	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	80%	Note: This performance is due to the involvement of communities' leaders and women and youth associations. Delivery Rate: 100 %	Activities Report / beneficiaries list	MRU/UNDP
% of women affected by EVD assisted	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	90%	90% Delivery Rate: 100 %	Activities Report / beneficiaries list	MRU/UNDP

¹⁰ Project can choose to contribute to all MCA or only the one relevant to its purpose.

Strategic Objective to which the project contributed	S.O.3: To improve institutional and lobbying capacity of implementing partners.				
Outcome 5: Adequate monitoring and evaluation follow up. # of joined missions between MRU, UNDP's and UNFPA's teams infield areas	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	12	1 Note: Initially, it was planned one steering committee to be held every month which is not realistic. Finally, during the project implementation, only one meeting had been held on November 2015. (See Audit report in Annex 1) Delivery Rate: 8,33 %	Activities Report / beneficiaries list	MRU/UNDP
Outcome 6: Lobbying and political support enhanced for EVD prevention initiatives # of national crisis meetings organized by MRU in Conakry	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	6	6 Delivery Rate: 100 %	Activities Report	MRU/UNDP
f regional meeting organized by MRU in Conakry to exchange lessons learned.	Frontier districts: Lola, Nzerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrecah and Coyah Mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana and Kundara	3	3 Delivery Rate: 100 %	Activities Report	MRU/UNDP
Booklet on lessons learnt from EVD in the three countries	National	1	O The task force to write this booklet has not yet perform the job.		
Outcome 7: Enhanced institutional support. # Ebola units installed and functioning in Conakry	Conakry	1	Note: According to the project documentation, this activity should be done by National Coordination Unit of Ebola Response and not MRU.	Not applicable to the MRU	UNDP
# Ebola teams installed and functioning in districts	Conakry	2	Note: According to the project documentation, these units should be installed by UNDP and UNFPA and not MRU.	Not applicable to the MRU	UNDP/UNFPA

FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Through social mobilization and awareness campaigns with a particular focus on vulnerable and at-risk groups such as women and youth, MRU, UNFPA and UNDP supported communities to set up Community Watch Committees (CWCs), door-to-door sensitization and referral of Ebola suspected and contact cases.

The project has been implemented in 14 districts including frontier districts: Lola, N'Zerekore, Yomou, Macenta, Gueckedou, Kissidougou, Faranah, Kindia, Forecariah, Dubrekah and Coyah and the mining and transit regions of Siguiri, Mandiana et Koundara. The project duration has been 9 months with a requested amount of 2,836,072 USD. 1 308 752 USD out of 2,836,072 USD have been allocated to the UNDP. A total amount of 1,307,757 USD expenditures have been done till the end of the project in December 2015, which is 99,92% of the total budget. Then 995 USD have been refunded by UNDP.

Background and Situational Evolution

This project was submitted to the Multi Partners Trust Fund (MPTF) to better coordinate the ongoing initiatives implemented against Ebola in the crossbreeding areas between the three affected areas (Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea). EVD had no frontiers and this project contributed to better address some of the consequences of the EVD in Guinea such as the disruption of relationships at community level which leaded to raise tensions between communities, the significant increase of reticence among communities affected by Ebola as well as the difficulties suffered by the first emergency responders and frontline workers to access the affected areas and tackle the consequences of the epidemic.

UNDP through this project provide a comprehensive package of services for communities which were heavily affected by the consequences of the Ebola outbreak at the cross bordering areas. This project came out to complete a previous regional proposal sent to MPTF jointly by UNICEF and UNDP, which aimed to install Community Watch Committees (CWC) in the region.

UNDP targeted Mano River Union (MRU) as an implementing partner based on the fact that MRU is a recognized intergovernmental organization covering four West African countries with adequate expertise to coordinate Development programs in all aspects of economic and social life of the Member States (Ivory Coast, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia), three of them directly affected by the Ebola outbreak.

The document planned several activities aiming to promote social cohesion, training and awareness/sensitization activities at community level to enhance a better access of the emergency responders and frontline workers to affected or in high risk to be affected by the EVD.

The Guinea PNUD Office focused its implementing strategy on strengthening the existing governmental mechanisms through the MRU to reestablish social cohesion and promoting prevention and positive social attitudes in the targeted areas.

Narrative section:

The main goal of the project was to improve community knowledge on EVD transmission as well as to provide adequate support to community engagement activities improving social cohesion for vulnerable groups and communities heavily affected by EVD.

The project focused on two levels of intervention:

- **a)** At the national level, the MRU served to conduct advocacy and lobbying activities towards a regional integration in the fight against EVD;
- **b**) At local level, the project contributed to promote social cohesion and coordinate efforts in the fight against Ebola with a special focus on cross bordering areas.

To achieve the outputs described within the project, the following outcomes were defined:

- c) To improve community knowledge and support to community engagement activities.
- **d**) To mitigate the financial impact of EVD on vulnerable groups.
- e) To improve institutional and lobbying capacity of implementing partners.

Key Achievements:

a) Achievements related to the effect indicators.

17 districts heavily affected by the EVD outbreak in Guinea boosted social cohesion and community engagement. Community engagement activities were designed to mitigate the effects of strong reluctance against the humanitarian actors and emergency first responders in the targeted areas. Confidence Building Units installed contributed decisively to mitigate the effects of the reluctance related effects on safe and dignified burials activities run by the Guinean Red Cross in the targeted areas.

b) Achievements related to the output indicators

S.O.1.: To improve community knowledge and support to community engagement activities.

b.1. Outcome 1: Improved CBU (Confidence Building Units) are in place and functioning.

- **b.1.1.-** 3 new CBU units were installed by MRU through UNDP. 17 existing CBU out of the 30 were fully functional within 17 districts targeted (implementing rate of 56, 67%) during the implementing period.
- **b.1.2.-** Purchase and supply of equipment for new Confidence Building Units (CBU) and the existing ones such as: motorbikes (30), computers and accessories (14). This equipment has contributed to facilitate their functioning. (implementing rate of 100%)

Confidence Building Units ended their activities at the end of the outbreak (June 2016) and they could be reactivated in case it was a new flare up. Regarding preparedness, the Ministry of Health and partners reoriented its strategy to the creation and strengthening of surveillance mechanisms as well as emergency response mechanisms through the creation of the National Agency of Sanitary Surveillance on December 2016.

b.2. Outcome 2: Improved knowledge on Ebola Prevention.

- **b.2.1.-** 98% of targeted reticence localities received adequate training on Ebola issues by the MRU (ToT) to boost humanitarian interventions in the affected areas.
- **b.2.2.-** A total of 19 730 out of 19 800 people initially targeted have benefited from door to door sessions conducted by the MRU. (implementing rate 99,64%) (9 500 by UNDP)
- **b.2.3.-** Launching the organization of 22 workshops to improve knowledge on Ebola prevention and transmission at community levels. The workshops was completed on November 2015.

b.3.Outcome 3: Improved social cohesion in EVD affected areas.

- **b.3.1.-** 370 out of the 360 social activities initially planned into the project document have been successfully done. A cross-bordering meeting was held on May 2015 to define cope strategies and coordinate post-crisis recovery plans.
- **b.3.2.-** 242 out of the 200 radio debates initially planned into the project document have been successfully done.

S.O.2.: To mitigate the financial impact of EVD on vulnerable groups.

b.4. Outcome 4: To mitigate the financial impact of EVD on vulnerable groups.

- **b.4.1.-** 80% of families affected by EVD assisted.
- **b.4.2.-** 90 % of women affected by EVD assisted.

S.O.3.: To improve institutional and lobbying capacity of implementing partners.

b.5. Outcome 5: Adequate Monitoring and Evaluation activities

b.5.1.- 1 joined missions between MRU, UNDP's and UNFPA's teams in field areas was done.

b.6. Outcome 6: Lobbying and political support enhanced for EVD prevention initiatives

- **b.6.1.-** 1 national crisis meetings organized by MRU in Conakry (1 out of 6 initially planned (16,66% implementing rate))
- **b.6.2.-** Two regional meetings organized by MRU in Conakry to exchange lessons learnt. (2 out of the 1 initially planned (200% implementing rate))

Short summary of the project implementation

This initiative was a joint project between UNICEF, UNFPA and UNDP. The part of the project implemented by UNDP ended on 31 December 2015 with 100% disbursement rate. Total expenditures for the project were 1 307 756,91 USD. A collaboration agreement was signed among UNDP and MRU on April 2015 for a total amount of 1 206 397,81 USD to be paid in two tranches. Because of the exchange rate variations, a total amount of 1 308 752 USD was received to implement the project. Main activities done by the MRU jointly with local and national NGOs were:

S.O.1.: To improve community knowledge and support to community engagement activities.

Outcome 1: Improved CBU (Confidence Building Units) are in place and functioning.

At the beginning of the project, MRU had only 14 CBUs. There was no provision to set up **new CBUs** in the project budget lines. Project was initially planned to support 14 CBUs. But, thanks to the budget reallocation by the steering Committee held in November 2015, the MRU could establish 3 new CBUs in the prefecture of Gueckedou (Fangamadou, Ouende Kenema and Tekoulo). At the end of the project a total of 17 CBUs were installed and fully fonctional. Furthermore, the project contributed to support CBUs installation thanks to the purchase and supply of adequate equipment (motorbikes, computers and accessories) to make CBUs functional in order to carry out adequately the community awareness/sensitization/lobbying and coordination activities under their supervision.

Outcome 2: Improved knowledge on Ebola Prevention.

MRU in collaboration with PNUD conducted sensitization workshops at national level and in the 33 prefectures of Guinea in order to increase knowledge on Ebola Prevention and Transmission at Community levels and improve social cohesion in EVD affected areas. The improved knowledge on Ebola Prevention and Transmission at National, Prefecture and Community levels was done through workshops, training of community leaders, Training Of Trainers (TOT), villages meetings, door-to-door sensitization, radio spot and other communication and training tools.

Outcome 3: Improved social cohesion in EVD affected areas.

MRU in connection with women and youth associations organized social activities (theaters, sports, dances, village meetings, etc. in the 33 prefectures of Guinea. Thanks to this strategy, we improved social cohesion and mitigated risk of stigmatization. To reach the assigned objectives MRU utilized traditional communicators and rural radios on EVD sensitization and awareness campaigns.

S.O.2.: To mitigate the financial impact of EVD on vulnerable groups.

Outcome 4: To mitigate the financial impact of EVD on vulnerable groups

The activities consisted on supporting Women's Associations to engage them in peer education in cross-bordering areas. It is necessary to highlight the strong involvement of communities 'leaders, women and youth associations on the activities carried out. The activities planned allowed to boost the economy of the communities living in the affected areas.

Then, at least 15 training activities have been organized by the Mano River Union in support of EVD women's' economic associations in Forest Guinea.

Finally, more than 24 women's economic associations in Forest Guinea have benefited from farming equipment and materials to improve productivity.

S.O.3.: To improve institutional and lobbying capacity of implementing partners.

Outcome 5: Adequate Monitoring and Evaluation activities

1 out of the 12 joined missions initially planned was done till December 2015. This bad performance is due to the lack of Steering Committee meetings. Initially, it was planned one steering committee to be held every month which result was not being realistic and operational.

However, implementing agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPAs) and MRU kept close communication channels and coordination through the National Ebola Response Coordination Cell set up to better coordinate emergency response activities on the ground. A project meeting was held on November 2015.

The Steering Committee for the closure of the Ebola projects including #29 was held on March 2016.

Outcome 6: Lobbying and political support enhanced for EVD prevention initiatives

MRU in connection with national NGOs organized held national workshops in order to assess the impacts of EVD on the activities of the following stakeholders: EVD victims and orphans, youth and women associations, traditional & modern medicines, private sector and media. Thanks to this strategy, we reached successfully expected target.

Furthermore, PNUD in collaboration with the Mano River Union organized a workshop to define cope strategies and coordinate post-crisis recovery plans. Participants came from Mano River Union's countries. The results achieved within the meeting was:

- **a.** Improve governance arrangements of MRU and the Fund Manager supported operations of emergency response and post-crisis recovery plans.
- **b.** Strengthen collaboration and promotion of more strategic use of resources provided by the funding institutions
- **c.** Promote harmonization in the policies and procedures.
- **d.** Set up institutional architecture and monitoring tools for the post-crisis recovery activities.
- **e.** Reinforcement of the logistics capacities of the Mano River Union to coordinate and run project activities at field level.
- **f.** Documenting lessons learnt (media, publication, consultant)
- g. Recruit and install project unit staff in both Conakry and Districts
- **h.** Equipment of project implementation, salaries and logistics to run activities.

Furthermore, the EVD outbreak in West Africa pushed the MRU to adopt regional strategies and prepare post-Ebola Recovery Plan. These strategies had been endorsed by the UN Secretary General and African Union (AU). Then, UND

Finally, MRU delegations participated into the different conferences in connection with Ebola fighting listed as follows: Ministers of Finances of the 3 most affected countries meeting, Heads of States Summit, UN Pledging, AU Ebola meeting in Malabo.

Outcome 7: Enhanced institutional support

According to the project documentation, this activity should be done by the National Coordination Unit of Ebola Response. There is no evidence the activity was finally implemented by the National Coordination Unit of Ebola Response.

Delays or Deviations – (*Please provide short justification for any delays or deviations*)

The UNDP activities implemented through the UN joint project was designed to carry out sensitization and community awareness aiming to mitigate community reticence in the affected areas and promote social cohesion. A first look into the activities implemented under the project reveals that the efforts deployed by UN Agencies through the multi-agency project funded by MPTF contributed decisively to reduce progressively Ebola cases in cross bordering areas in 2015

The setting up of the CBUs to support Community Watch Committees activities and the community based networks installed contributed to improve several elements of the Ebola response mechanisms such as improvement of adequate health care practices, prevention of communities at risk and last but not least a better knowledge of EVD transmission chains and coordination mechanisms.

At the beginning of the project, MRU had only 14 CBUs. There was no provision to set up new CBUs in the project budget lines. But, thanks to the budget reallocation by the steering Committee held in November 2015, MRU established 3 new CBUs. Therefore, this variance is due to lack of budget provision.

Some of the activities were initially delayed due to the Presidential Election in October 2015. Project faced the following challenges:

- Difficult access to Ebola affected during the rainy season because of the roads.
- Lack of leadership at field level to coordinate awareness and sensitization activities on the field because of the multiplicity of partners and approaches.

- High number of social mobilization actors on the field difficult coordination on communication messages delivered.
- Although awareness activities and trainings for community leaders were implemented according to the project document, reticence were registered at community level during the project period.

Gender and Environmental Markers (*Please provide disaggregated data, if applicable*)

No. of Beneficiaries			
Women	NA		
Girls	NA		
Men	NA		
Boys	NA		
Total	NA		

Environmental Markers
NA

Best Practice and Summary Evaluation

The project has been implemented in connection with the Mano River Union. To avoid duplication of activities the Mano River Union coordinate their interventions with partners intervening into the emergency response at national and field levels.

Lessons learned

- a) The Steering Committee held in Conakry on 17th Mars 2017 stated that bringing social mobilization closer to the population and getting community members directly involved in neighborhood and sensitization and surveillance were identified as some of the most critical factors in fighting against the virus.
- **b)** Activities contributed to restore confidence on the use of health facilities and the collaboration with the frontline emergency response workers.
- c) Strong reluctance was mitigated till the end of the projects.
- **d**) Thanks to the expertise of the Traditional Communicators and Women and Youth associations, MRU had significantly mitigated the risk of stigmatization and exclusion in the Ebola affected areas.
- e) Without Community involvement and commitment, our Program interventions could not achieve the expected objectives.

Story on the Ground

The story below highlights the stigmatization and exclusion the orphans and victims of EVD experienced in their environment.

"My name is Karamoko Camara, secondary school student at Kérouané. I am Orphan of EVD and I lost all my family members (father, mother, brothers and sisters). During the exam period, I had been isolated in the single row. Fortunately, I passed the exam (I succeed). Now I have nobody to provide support to me and no friend in my compound. No one does want to approach me. They are fear. I could not go back to school because of lack of support. Throughout the workshop, I met new friends and shared my experiences. After the workshop, I received school kit from MRU (bag, books, pen, and other supplies). Thanks to this support I can start going to school. But I need more support in order to allow me to complete my curriculum".

Pictures







Images extracted from the National Workshop held in Conakry entitled "Sharing experiences on Ebola response in Guinee".

(November 2015)